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			2176	

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
	09/902,261	OGISHI ET AL.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	Chau Nguyen	2176				
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address				
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).						
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 De	ecember 2005.					
	action is non-final.	,				
,						
closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
Disposition of Claims						
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-17</u> is/are pending in the application.						
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.						
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-17</u> is/are rejected.						
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.						
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	election requirement.					
Application Papers						
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine	r.					
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acce	epted or b) objected to by the E	Examiner.				
Applicant may not request that any objection to the	drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See	e 37 CFR 1.85(a).				
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).						
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of:						
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.						
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No						
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage						
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.						
dee the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.						
Attachment(s)						
Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview Summary					
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)	Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal P	ate atent Application (PTO-152)				
Paper No(s)/Mail Date	6) Other:	,				

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Amendment, received on 12/22/2005, has been entered. Claims 1-17 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 3. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alam et al. (Alam), US Patent No. 6,336,124, and further in view of Makipaa et al. (Makipaa), US Patent No. 6,556,217.
- 4. As to claim 1, Alam discloses a display device for displaying, on a display screen, information specified in a document description language for a structured document, the information being displayed in a mode prescribed for the document description

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language, and performing a screen switching in response to a user input, said device comprising:

an analyzer for operable to analyze the information, and operable to divide said information into a plurality of component elements (Abstract: locating data in an input document, grouping data into one or more blocks (component elements));

a rule change instruction part operable to make an instruction for a change of layout rules to be applied to said information (col. 17, line 1 – col. 18, line 36: certain rules may be set and applied to determine how to format the input document);

a layout rule change part containing a plurality of predetermined layout rules, each of layout rules defines a layout method for each type of the component elements of the information, and which are applicable to the component elements (col. 17, line 1 – col. 18, line 36: Figure 19 shows determining steps of how component elements are displayed within the displayed configuration, thus there must exist predetermined layout rules in order to determinate how to display the component elements. Also, if the current block (component element) is a table, the first row and first column of the table are selected as the row and column headings, and then determining the number of columns n that can be displayed with the column heading, if any, within the display configuration. If the component element is not a table, breaking up the component element into elements such that each element can be displayed within the display configuration);

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generate a layout result (Figs 21A-21E show the five display pages (layout result) into which sample document 2000 may be divided in order to fit as many elements or sub-blocks of the sub-pages onto each display page);

user input part operable to receive the user input (col. 5, lines 35-45: user specifies one or more output formats);

a display range determination part operable to determine a display range of the layout result based on the user input (col. 5, lines 35-45: the one or more output formats may be specified by the user, all of one or more output formats supported and determined based upon the application or device to which the converted data output is outputted);

However, Alam does not explicitly disclose the layout rule change part operable to select one of the layout rules responding to the instruction from said rule change instruction part; a layout part operable to lay out each of the component elements derived by the analyzer according to the layout rule selected by said layout rule change part; and a display part operable to generate screen data of the display range determined by said display range determination part based on the component elements derived by said analyzer and a layout result of each of the component elements, and operable to display the screen data on the display screen.

Makipaa discloses displaying information on a user terminal screen by identifying user terminal type and screen size then extracting layout rules and typographical

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settings from a database based on the user terminal type, calculating the space required to display the information on the user terminal screen, and the information is then displayed according to the layout rules and typographical settings, on the user terminal screen (col. 3, lines 14-28). Makipaa also discloses the layout rules for terminal type and user profile are retrieved from the user and terminal profile (col. 9, line 8 – col. 10, line 36). Since Makipaa discloses displaying information on any type of user terminal having any size screen and having different types of mechanisms for input of information, which is similar to converting digital data representing an image of a document image stored in one format to other formats for manipulation and display of Alam, thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Makipaa and Alam to include layout rule change means for selecting one of said layout rules responding to the instruction from said rule change instruction means; layout means for laying out each of said component elements derived by said analysis means according to the layout rule selected by said layout rule change means; and display means for generating screen data of the display range determined by said display range determination means based on said component elements derived by said analysis means and a layout result of each of said component elements, and displaying the screen data on the display screen. Makipaa's system can be able to operate and adapt to the differing input devices to allow for maximum utilization of the terminal the user has.

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- 5. As to claim 2, Alam and Makipaa (Alam-Makipaa) disclose wherein the information includes at least one or more of a text element, a table element, and an image element (Alam, col. 2, lines 12-27).
- 6. As to claim 3, Alam-Makipaa disclose wherein the document description language is a markup language or a hypertext description language (Alam, col. 2, lines 28-36).
- 7. As to claim 4, Alam-Makipaa disclose wherein said rule change instruction part receives the user input, and makes the instruction for the change of the layout rules (Makipaa, col. 3, lines 14-28 and col. 9, line 8 col. 10, line 36: Makipaa discloses displaying information on any type of user terminal having any size screen and having different types of mechanisms for input of information, which is similar to converting digital data representing an image of a document image stored in one format to other formats for manipulation and display of Alam, thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Makipaa and Alam to include rule change instruction part receives the user input, and makes the instruction for the change of the layout rules. The motivation to combine Makipaa's system into Alam's is that Makipaa's system can be able to operate and adapt to the differing input devices to allow for maximum utilization of the terminal the user has).

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8. As to claim 5, Alam-Makipaa disclose wherein said rule change instruction part refers to the display range determined by said to the display range display range determination part, and makes the change of the layout rules based on an attribute of each of the component elements included in the display range (Alam, col. 17, line 1 – col. 18, line 36: certain rules may be set and applied to determine how to format the input document; col. 5, lines 35-45: the one or more output formats may be specified by the user, all of one or more output formats supported and determined based upon the application or device to which the converted data output is outputted).

- 9. As to claim 6, Alam-Makipaa disclose wherein said rule change instruction the refers to the display range determined by said display range determination the, and makes the instruction for the change of the layout rules based on the layout result of each of the component elements included in the display range (Alam, col. 17, line 1 col. 18, line 36: certain rules may be set and applied to determine how to format the input document; col. 5, lines 35-45: the one or more output formats may be specified by the user, all of one or more output formats supported and determined based upon the application or device to which the converted data output is outputted).
- 10. As to claim 7, Alam-Makipaa disclose wherein each of the layout rules included in said layout rule change part defines a layout method for each type of the component elements of said information (Alam, col. 7, line 5 col. 18, line 36).

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11. As to claim 8, Alam-Makipaa disclose wherein the layout rules to be selected by said layout rule change part include one type of layout rule for laying out a table element included in the information in a table structure (Alam, col. 7, line 5 – col. 18, line 36).

- 12. Claims 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alam et al. (Alam) and Makipaa et al. (Makipaa) as discussed in claims 1-8 above, and further in view of Thurlow et al. (Thurlow), US Patent No. 6,057,841.
- 13. As to claim 9, Alam and Makipaa disclose said display range determination part follows the user input process rule selected by said user input process rule change part, and determines the display range of the information based on the user input (Makipaa, col. 3, lines 14-28 and col. 9, line 8 col. 10, line 36: displaying information on a user terminal screen by identifying user terminal type and screen size then extracting layout rules and typographical settings from a database based on the user terminal type, calculating the space required to display the information on the user terminal screen, and the information is then displayed according to the layout rules and typographical settings, on the user terminal screen. Makipaa also discloses the layout rules for terminal type and user profile are retrieved from the user and terminal profile (col. 9, line 8 col. 10, line 36)).

However, Alam and Makipaa do not explicitly disclose a user input process rule change part containing a plurality of predetermined user input process rules applicable to said user input, said user input process rule change part operable to select one of a

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plurality of user input process rules applicable to said user input according to the instruction from said rule change instruction part. Thurlow discloses a method that allows users to build rules by choosing predefined conditions and actions, which are presented via a simple graphical user interface (col. 1, lines 55-62). Thurlow also discloses providing a user interface that guides user through the process of creating and editing rules by displaying on the display device a plurality of conditions so the user can selection one of the conditions, in response to the selected condition, representing the selected condition to the displayed state of the rule (col. 9, lines 19-65 and col. 17, line 44 – col. 18, line 54). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Thurlow and Alam, and Makipaa to include a plurality of predetermined user input process rules applicable to said user input in order to process messages or documents in the most efficient and timely manner.

14. As to claim 10, Alam, Makipaa, and Thurlow disclose wherein said rule change instruction means instructs, at the same time, said layout rule change means for the change of the layout rules, and said user input process rule change means for the change of the user input process rules (Alam, col. 17, line 1 – col. 18, line 36: certain rules may be set and applied to determine how to format the input document; col. 5, lines 35-45: the one or more output formats may be specified by the user, all of one or more output formats supported and determined based upon the application or device to which the converted data output is outputted; Thurlow discloses a method that allows

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users to build rules by choosing predefined conditions and actions, which are presented

via a simple graphical user interface (col. 1, lines 55-62). Thurlow also discloses

providing a user interface that guides user through the process of creating and editing

rules by displaying on the display device a plurality of conditions so the user can

selection one of the conditions, in response to the selected condition, representing the

selected condition to the displayed state of the rule (col. 9, lines 19-65 and col. 17, line

44 - col. 18, line 54). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Thurlow and Alam to include a

plurality of predetermined user input process rules applicable to said user input in order

to process messages or documents in the most efficient and timely manner).

15. Claims 11-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Alam et al. (Alam), US Patent No. 6,336,124, Makipaa et al. (Makipaa), US Patent No.

6,556,217, further in view of Thurlow et al. (Thurlow), US Patent No. 6,057,841.

16. As to claim 11, Alam discloses a display device for displaying, on a display

screen, information specified in a document description language for a structured

document, the information being displayed in a mode prescribed for the document

description language, and performing a screen switching in response to a user input,

said device comprising:

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an analyzer for operable to analyze the information, and operable to divide said information into a plurality of component elements (Abstract: locating data in an input document, grouping data into one or more blocks (component elements));

a rule change instruction part operable to make an instruction for a change of layout rules to be applied when displaying the information (col. 17, line 1 – col. 18, line 36: certain rules may be set and applied to determine how to format the input document);

generate a layout result (Figs 21A-21E show the five display pages (layout result) into which sample document 2000 may be divided in order to fit as many elements or sub-blocks of the sub-pages onto each display page);

user input part operable to receive the user input (col. 5, lines 35-45: user specifies one or more output formats);

a display range determination part operable to follow the user input process rule selected by said user input process rule change part, and operable to determine a display range of the layout result based on the user input (col. 5, lines 35-45: the one or more output formats may be specified by the user, all of one or more output formats supported and determined based upon the application or device to which the converted data output is outputted);

However, Alam does not explicitly disclose a layout part operable to layout each of the component elements derived by said analyzer, and a display part operable to generate screen data of the display range determined by said display range determination part based on the component elements derived by said analyzer and a

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the layout result of each of the component elements, and operable to display the screen data on the display screen. Makipaa discloses displaying information on a user terminal screen by identifying user terminal type and screen size then extracting layout rules and typographical settings from a database based on the user terminal type, calculating the space required to display the information on the user terminal screen, and the information is then displayed according to the layout rules and typographical settings, on the user terminal screen (col. 3, lines 14-28). Makipaa also discloses the layout rules for terminal type and user profile are retrieved from the user and terminal profile (col. 9, line 8 - col. 10, line 36). Since Makipaa discloses displaying information on any type of user terminal having any size screen and having different types of mechanisms for input of information, which is similar to converting digital data representing an image of a document image stored in one format to other formats for manipulation and display of Alam, thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Makipaa and Alam to include a layout part operable to layout each of the component elements derived by said analyzer, and a display part operable to generate screen data of the display range determined by said display range determination part based on the component elements derived by said analyzer and a layout result of each of the component elements, and operable to display the screen data on the display screen. Makipaa's system can be able to operate and adapt to the differing input devices to allow for maximum utilization of the terminal the user has.

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However, Alam and Makipaa do not explicitly disclose a user input process rule change part containing a plurality of predetermined user input process rules applicable to said user input, said user input process rule change part operable to select one of a plurality of user input process rules applicable to said user input according to the instruction from said rule change instruction part. Thurlow discloses a method that allows users to build rules by choosing predefined conditions and actions, which are presented via a simple graphical user interface (col. 1, lines 55-62). Thurlow also discloses providing a user interface that guides user through the process of creating and editing rules by displaying on the display device a plurality of conditions so the user can selection one of the conditions, in response to the selected condition, representing the selected condition to the displayed state of the rule (col. 9, lines 19-65 and col. 17, line 44 - col. 18, line 54). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Thurlow and Alam and Makipaa to include a plurality of predetermined user input process rules applicable to said user input in order to process messages or documents in the most efficient and timely manner.

17. As to claim 12, Alam, Makipaa and Thurlow disclose wherein the information includes at least one or more of a text element, a table element, and an image element (Alam, col. 2, lines 12-27).

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18. As to claim 13, Alam, Makipaa and Thurlow disclose wherein the document

description language is a markup language or a hypertext description language (Alam,

col. 2, lines 28-36).

19. As to claim 14, Alam, Makipaa and Thurlow disclose wherein said rule change

instruction part receives the user input, and makes the instruction for the change of the

user input process rules (Makipaa, col. 3, lines 14-28 and col. 9, line 8 - col. 10, line 36:

Makipaa discloses displaying information on any type of user terminal having any size

screen and having different types of mechanisms for input of information, which is

similar to converting digital data representing an image of a document image stored in

one format to other formats for manipulation and display of Alam, thus it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

combine the teachings of Makipaa and Alam to include rule change instruction part

receives the user input, and makes the instruction for the change of the layout rules.

The motivation to combine Makipaa's system into Alam's is that Makipaa's system can

be able to operate and adapt to the differing input devices to allow for maximum

utilization of the terminal the user has).

20. As to claim 15, Alam, Makipaa and Thurlow disclose wherein said rule change

instruction part refers to the display range determined by said to the display range

display range determination part, and makes the change of the layout rules based on an

attribute of each of the component elements included in the display range (Alam, col.

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17, line 1 - col. 18, line 36: certain rules may be set and applied to determine how to

format the input document; col. 5, lines 35-45: the one or more output formats may be

specified by the user, all of one or more output formats supported and determined

based upon the application or device to which the converted data output is outputted).

21. As to claim 16, Alam, Makipaa and Thurlow disclose wherein said rule change

instruction the refers to the display range determined by said display range

determination the, and makes the instruction for the change of the layout rules based on

the layout result of each of the component elements included in the display range

(Alam, col. 17, line 1 - col. 18, line 36: certain rules may be set and applied to

determine how to format the input document; col. 5, lines 35-45: the one or more output

formats may be specified by the user, all of one or more output formats supported and

determined based upon the application or device to which the converted data output is

outputted).

22. As to claim 17, Alam disclose in col. 17, line 1 – col. 18, line 36: certain rules may

be set and applied to determine how to format the input document; col. 5, lines 35-45:

the one or more output formats may be specified by the user, all of one or more output

formats supported and determined based upon the application or device to which the

converted data output is outputted. However, Alam does not explicitly disclose wherein

said rule change instruction means instructs, at the same time, said layout rule change

means for the change of the layout rules, and said user input process rule change

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means for the change of the user input process rules. Thurlow discloses a method that allows users to build rules by choosing predefined conditions and actions, which are presented via a simple graphical user interface (col. 1, lines 55-62). Thurlow also discloses providing a user interface that guides user through the process of creating and editing rules by displaying on the display device a plurality of conditions so the user can selection one of the conditions, in response to the selected condition, representing the selected condition to the displayed state of the rule (col. 9, lines 19-65 and col. 17, line 44 – col. 18, line 54). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Thurlow and Alam and Makipaa to include a plurality of predetermined user input process rules applicable to said user input in order to process messages or documents in the most efficient and timely manner).

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Response to Arguments

In the remarks, Applicant(s) argued in substance that

A) The cited prior art fails to disclose, suggest or otherwise render obvious the feature

of a layout rule change part containing a plurality of predetermined layout rules, each of

which defines a layout method for each type of the component elements of the

information, and which are applicable to the component elements.

In reply to argument A, Alam discloses in the Abstract: locating data in an input

document, grouping data into one or more blocks (component elements). In addition,

Alam discloses in col. 17, line 1 – col. 18, line 36: Figure 19 shows determining steps of

how component elements are displayed within the displayed configuration, thus there

must exist predetermined layout rules in order to determinate how to display the

component elements. Also, if the current block (component element) is a table (type of

the component), the first row and first column of the table are selected as the row and

column headings, and then determining the number of columns n that can be displayed

with the column heading, if any, within the display configuration. If the component

element is not a table, breaking up the component element into elements such that

each element can be displayed within the display configuration.

B) The cited prior art references do not teach or suggest such features "the layout part

is operable to generate a layout result, the display range determination part is operable

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to determine a display range of the layout result, and the display part is operable to generate screen data in the display range."

In reply to argument B. Alam discloses in Figs 21A-21E which shows the five display pages (layout result) into which sample document 2000 may be divided in order to fit as many elements or sub-blocks of the sub-pages onto each display page (layout Makipaa discloses displaying information on a user terminal screen by result). identifying user terminal type and screen size then extracting layout rules and typographical settings from a database based on the user terminal type, calculating the space required to display the information on the user terminal screen, and the information is then displayed according to the layout rules and typographical settings, on the user terminal screen (col. 3, lines 14-28). Makipaa also discloses the layout rules for terminal type and user profile are retrieved from the user and terminal profile (col. 9, line 8 – col. 10, line 36).

C) The prior art fails to teach or suggest, "in response to a user input to a user input part, the display device is operable to perform screen switching".

In response to argument C, the recitation "the display device is operable to perform screen switching" has not been given patentable weight because the recitation occurs in the preamble. A preamble is generally not accorded any patentable weight where it merely recites the purpose of a process or the intended use of a structure, and where the body of the claim does not depend on the preamble for completeness but, instead, the process steps or structural limitations are able to stand alone. See In re

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Hirao, 535 F.2d 67, 190 USPQ 15 (CCPA 1976) and *Kropa v. Robie*, 187 F.2d 150, 152, 88 USPQ 478, 481 (CCPA 1951). In this case, Alam discloses in col. 5, lines 35-45: user specifies one or more output formats.

D) There is absolutely no disclosure whatsoever in Thurlow indicating that these rules are applicable to the user input itself.

In reply to argument D, Thurlow discloses a method that allows users to build rules by choosing predefined conditions and actions, which are presented via a simple graphical user interface (col. 1, lines 55-62). Thurlow also discloses providing a user interface that guides user through the process of creating and editing rules by displaying on the display device a plurality of conditions so the user can selection one of the conditions, in response to the selected condition, representing the selected condition to the displayed state of the rule (col. 9, lines 19-65 and col. 17, line 44 – col. 18, line 54).

23. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Please see the rejection and response to argument above.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Chau Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-

4092. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:30

pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's

supervisor, Heather Herndon, can be reached at (571) 272-4136.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned is 703-872-9306. On July 15, 2005, the Central Facsimile (FAX) Number will

change from 703-872-9306 to 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

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Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chau Nguyen
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2176

WILLIAM BASHORE PRIMARY EXAMINER

3/5/2006